

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

CONCLUSION

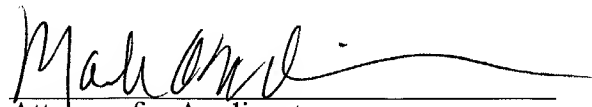
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

FEE

We also enclose a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2).

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 33,628

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
CPW\MAW\gmc
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